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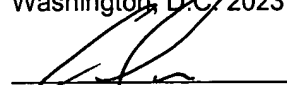
**PATENT**

Docket No. 15916-249x

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Craig A. Slavin

**Applicant:** Thompson et al.

**Serial No.:** Unassigned

**Filing Date:** July 18, 2001

**Title:** Catheter Having Improved Torque Transmission Capability and Method of Making the Same

**Group Art Unit:** Unassigned

**Examiner:** Unassigned

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**


Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**In the Claims:**

*Please cancel claims 1-26 without prejudice.*

**In the Specification:**

***On page 1, please rewrite the paragraph on lines 2-4 in the following amended form:***

 This application is a divisional of co-pending U.S. application Serial No. 09/150,833, filed September 10, 1998, which is a continuation-in-part of co-pending U.S. application Serial No. 08/902,742, filed July 29, 1997, now abandoned, which is incorporated herein by reference.